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**Intellectual Property Causes**  
**1950 Roland Clarke Place**  
**Reston, VA 20191**  
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Mail Stop AF



Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
 Expedited Procedure Requested  
 Examining Group. 3738  
 Attorney Docket No. P24077

In re application of: Shionnosuke NAKAHARA et al.

Application No. : 10/642,684

Group Art Unit : 3738

Filed : August 19, 2003

Examiner : Bruce SNOW

For : INTERVERTEBRAL CAGE

**Mail Stop AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
 Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF  
 Randolph Building  
 401 Dulany Street  
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a **Response under 37 C.F.R. 1.116** in the above-captioned application.

☒ Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.

☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.

☐ A Request for Extension of Time.

☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
			Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims: 4	*20	0	x25=	\$0.00	x 50=	\$
Indep. Claims: 1	**3	0	x100=	\$0.00	x200=	\$
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+180=	\$0.00	+360=	\$
Extension Fees for ____ Month(s)				\$0.00		\$
Total:				\$0.00	Total:	\$

\* If less than 20, write 20

\*\* If less than 3, write 3

☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_.

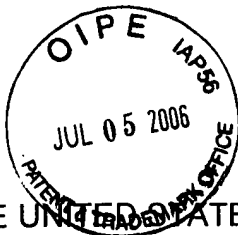
☐ A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_ to cover the filing/extension fee is included.

☒ The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of time fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)(3)).

*William E. Lyddane*  
 Bruce H. Bernstein  
 Reg. No. 29,027  
 William E. Lyddane  
 Reg. No. 41,568



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Shinnosuke NAKAHARA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116**

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AF  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated May 4, 2006, setting a shortened three-month statutory period for response to expire on August 4, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.